

South Africa community challenge

12-22 September 2009

act:onaid



Discover vibrant South Africa working shoulder to shoulder with local people to help build a much-needed community centre which will have a positive and lasting impact for generations to come. Experience the culture, make new friends and help us to end poverty together.

DAY 1: Saturday 12 September

Overnight flight from London Heathrow to Johannesburg.

DAY 2: Sunday 13 September

Onward flight to Port Elizabeth and transfer to your hotel in Grahamstown, our base for the next seven nights.

We have time to relax before a briefing on the project and the work you will be doing, and the expectations of the local people who you will be working with. We then enjoy a traditional barbeque dinner at the hotel (weather permitting).

DAY 3: Monday 14 September

Transfer to the worksite to begin your

challenge! The day starts with introductions, a full tour of the site and a health and safety briefing before work begins. No experience or building skills are required. You will be given full instructions for all the tasks you are to undertake, and at all times the ActionAid construction supervisor, your team leader and the local staff will be on hand to help. Each day there will be regular breaks and snacks and all drinking water is provided on site. We finish work at around 4.30-5pm.

We return to the hotel for a short debriefing session and dinner.

DAYS 4 - 6: Tuesday 15 - Thursday 17 September

Each day you will leave the hotel after breakfast to work on the community centre, returning in the evening for dinner. Work may include digging, mixing cement or concrete, rendering, painting, moving or laying bricks, and many other activities.

You will also learn more about ActionAid's work in South Africa and about the huge impact these centres will have on people's lives.

DAY 7: Friday 18 September

On the final morning working on the project you finish early for a short, on-site farewell

ceremony to say goodbye to the local people and your new friends!

We have a feedback and debrief at the hotel, before you head out into Grahamstown to celebrate your achievements over dinner at a local restaurant.

DAY 8: Saturday 19 September

Free day to rest or explore Grahamstown.

DAY 9: Sunday 20 September

We enjoy a morning game drive in the Addo Elephant Park and Game Reserve, one of the few places on earth where you can see the 'big 7' – elephant, lion, buffalo, leopard, rhino, whale and great white shark. We have dinner at a local restaurant.

DAY 10: Monday 21 September

Depart from the hotel mid-morning for our return flights.

DAY 11: Tuesday 22 September

Arrive London Heathrow early morning.

At the end of your challenge, you can arrange to stay on for a well earned holiday at an extra cost. Please note places are limited and available on a first come, first served basis.

© **community**challenge. This is a complex itinerary and subject to change. All flight and expedition arrangements are being undertaken by Community Challenge (ATOL 6546). All flights are offset and local ground handlers are used. Community challenge take environmental considerations seriously and have a comprehensive Responsible Tourism policy.

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"I knew it would be a rewarding experience but I completely underestimated just how much. I've never worked so hard and smiled so much."

Emma Paxton, Cambodia
Community Challenge 2007



Emma taking a break from work to play with the local children.

WHERE ON EARTH AM I GOING?

About South Africa

South Africa is an exhilarating and complex country. The southernmost tip of Africa is home to a nation on the rise – a place where a vibrant culture, great natural wealth and breathtaking landscapes come together to create fresh opportunities and new ways of doing things. With its post-apartheid identity still in the process of definition, there is an abundance of energy and a sense of progress.



ActionAid in South Africa

The project you will be working on is based Ngqushwa, in the Eastern Cape region, home to diverse landscapes and untouched coastline. Its rural location means that accessing vital services is difficult, and people have to travel long distances, which takes time and costs money. The community centre you will be helping to build will be used by three villages, providing a library and information centre, a meeting place for the community to come together and discuss issues, and a training centre where children and community members go to learn new skills.

Photography: James Oatway/Panos/Thierry Falise/OnAsia/ActionAid

MONEY MATTERS

REGISTRATION FEE: £300 (can be paid in two monthly instalments)

MINIMUM SPONSORSHIP: £3,200

The trip costs of **£1,795** will be taken from your minimum sponsorship.

Trip costs will cover:

- all flights and transfers
- accommodation
- travel insurance – this is a specialist insurance that covers work on a building site
- drinking water and all meals (apart from lunch on day 8)
- group first aid supplies
- an English-speaking expedition leader (first-aid trained)
- full local support team
- carbon offset for your flights.

Additional extras you will need to cover:

- airport taxes approx £200 (payable six weeks prior to departure, amount tbc)
- any optional activities and any optional tours taken on day 8
- lunch on free day (day 8)
- personal spending money for souvenirs
- alcoholic and soft drinks
- travel to/from UK airports
- any vaccinations
- tips for the local support team (we recommend approx £30).

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www.actionaid.org.uk/adventures

ActionAid is a registered charity no. 274467

